

A brilliant athlete

1. Hicham El Guerrouj (born September 14, 1974, Berkane, Morocco) is a Moroccan middle distance runner. He has set several world records, and is considered by some as the greatest middle -distance runner of all time, earning him the nickname "King of the Mile".
2. He has now moved up to compete in long distance events. He said he wants to better Kenenisa Bekele's world record of 12 min 37 s in the 5000 m. He is the world record holder for the 1,500 metres, the mile and 2,000 metres and is the athlete with the best record in both events in the last decade.
3. His sporting career is marked by various recognitions such as the award to humanitarian effort from the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), which he received in 1996. He is also a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador. El Guerrouj was named best athlete of the year by the IAAF in 2001 and 2002 after remaining unbeaten in more than 20 races and thus becoming the first man to win athlete of the year titles in consecutive years since the award was created in 1988. Also, in 2002, he was chosen, together with the British athlete Paula Radcliffe, best athlete of the year by the prestigious athletics journal Track and Field News.
4. 2003, he was also top of the world athletics list and was elected as a member of the IAAF Athletes Committee, On September 7, 2004, Hicham El Guerrouj was decorated with the "Cordon de Commandeur" by King Mohammed VI of Morocco.

I- comprehension: (15 points)

BASE ALL YOUR ANSWERS ON THE TEXT

A. Are these sentences true or false? Justify. (3 points)

1. El Guerrouj has never set any world records.
.....
2. He got the award to humanitarian effort in 1996.
.....
3. Track and field news chose El Guerrouj the only best athlete of the year 2002.
.....

B. Answer these questions: (4 points)

- 1- Which distance was El Guerrouj good at?
.....
- 2- What are El Guerrouj's records?
.....
- 3- How old was El Guerrouj when he was decorated with the "Cordon de Commandeur"?
.....
- 4- What does IAAF stand for?
.....

C. What do these words refer to? (3 points)

- 1-Both events: (paragraph 2).....
- 2- His: (paragraph 3).....
- 3- The award: (paragraph 3).....

D. Find words which mean the same as: (3 points)

1. To improve (paragraph 2):
2. 10 years: (paragraph 2):
3. Staying: (paragraph 3):

E. Complete these sentences in your own words: (2 points)

- 1- In 2001 and 2002 the IAAF.....
- 2- King Mohammed VI of Morocco.....

II. Language: (15 points)

A. Match the following words together to make appropriate collocations. (3 points)

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| easily | the price |
| it's worth | advances |
| technological | with someone |
| | accessible |

B. Complete these sentences with the appropriate word from the list. (2 points)

- a) Non-profit b) reception c) struggle d) vulnerable

- 1-The young artist was given a warm..... at the airport.
2-The volunteers carry out tasks that help..... citizens.

C. Rewrite these sentences with the words given. (4 points)

1. I don't know much about job interviews.
I wish.....
2. "I am awfully sorry, I am not coming".
She.....
3. Only twenty teachers can be accepted for the job.
We can.....
4. My sister didn't see me; she didn't take me with her.
If.....

D. Give the correct form or tense of the verbs between brackets. (3 Points).

When Barbara went sailing, she left a note she (to write)earlier, saying that she (Like)..... (Meet).....Liza the next day.

E. Match each sentence with its appropriate function. (3 points)

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. I hate to mention this but your son destroyed all my flowers. | a. giving opinions |
| 2. I definitely think that you should open a bank account | b. cause and effect |
| 3. If only my son had not won the competition. | c. complaining |
| | d. Regrets |

III. Writing: (10 points)

Do you think sport is important in young people's life? Why? In what way can it be a means of self-fulfillment? Give reasons for this importance.

Key answers

1. Comprehension: (15 points)

A/

1. False. He has set several world records.
2. True. The award humanitarian effort from IAAF in 1996.
3. False. He was chosen together with Paula Radcliffe.

B/

1. The mile, nickname "The King of the Mile"
2. 1500m, the mile and 2000metres.
3. He was 30, 2004 – 1974.
4. International Association Athletics Federation.

C/

1. Both events: The mile and 2000m.
2. His: El Guerrouj's.
3. The award: The athlete of the year.

D/

1. To improve: to better.
2. 10 years: decade.
3. Staying: remaining.

E/

1. In 2001 and 2002 the IAAF named El Guerrouj best athlete of the year.
2. King Mohammed VI of Morocco decorated El Guerrouj with the "cordon de Commandeur".

II. Language: (15 points)

A/

- Easily accessible.
- It's worth the price.
- Technological advances.

B/

1. B
2. D

C/

1. I wish I knew about job interviews.
2. She apologized for not coming.
3. We can accept only 20 teachers.
4. If she had seen me, she would have taken me with her.

D/

Had written — would like to meet

E/

1. C
2. A
3. D